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Item 35 of the preliminary list*

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 25 February 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text, in English and French, of a statement on the situation in south Lebanon of the Presidency of the European Community, issued at Lisbon on 20 February 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 35 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Fernando REINO
Ambassador of Portugal
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

* A/47/50.

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ANNEX

Statement on the situation in south Lebanon, issued at Lisbon on 20 February 1992 by the European Community

The Community and its member States express their grave concern about the recent worsening of the situation in south Lebanon.

In line with its recent statement on the Middle East peace process, the Community and its member States strongly reiterate their condemnation of all acts of violence in the region, whatever their origin. Such acts of violence endanger the lives of innocent civilians and those of United Nations personnel in the area and may create an obstacle to the current Middle East process. Bearing this in mind, the Community and its member States appeal to the parties involved to refrain from any military actions, to respect the sovereignty of Lebanon and the role of the United Nations forces in the southern part of that country.